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Globalization and interdependence: role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Awsan **Al-Aud** (Yemen)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 51 (see A/63/416, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 27th, 28th, 29th and 31st meetings, on 18, 20 and 25 November and 11 December 2008. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/63/SR.27, 28, 29 and 31).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/63/L.29 and A/C.2/63/L.66

2. At the 27th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" (A/C.2/63/L.29), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000, 56/209 of 21 December 2001, 57/274 of 20 December 2002, 58/225 of 23 December 2003, 59/240 of 22 December 2004, 60/204 of 22 December 2005, 61/207 of 20 December

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in five parts, under the symbol A/63/416 and Add.1-4.

2006 and 62/199 of 19 December 2007 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

"*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in the economic, social and related fields, including Assembly resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

"*Reaffirming* that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence,

"*Reaffirming also* the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people,

"*Recognizing* that globalization, driven largely by economic liberalization and technology, implies that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders and that maximizing in an equitable manner the benefits of globalization requires developing responses to globalization through a strengthened global partnership for development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Expressing deep concern* at the current financial and economic crises, as a direct consequence of unchecked neoliberal financial deregulation and the lack of regulatory oversight, and food and energy crises and their negative impact on the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, particularly for developing countries,

"*Recognizing* that domestic economies are now interwoven with the global economy and that globalization affects all countries in different ways, and that countries on the one hand have trade and investment opportunities to, inter alia, fight poverty, while on the other face constraints in the degree of flexibility they have in pursuing their national development strategies,

"*Reaffirming* its strong support for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate growth into reduction of poverty and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Noting* that particular attention must be given, in the context of globalization, to the objective of protecting, promoting and enhancing the rights and welfare of women and girls, as stated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Expresses concern* that the most recent poverty estimates reveal that poverty is more widespread than previously estimated;

"3. *Recognizes with serious concern* the negative impacts of the current financial and economic crises, particularly on developing countries, in view of their limited capacity to facilitate export and secure access to credit as well as pursue effective counter-cyclical macroeconomic policies, and on the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

"4. *Recognizes* that the present financial crisis and the response measures adopted by the Governments of the affected countries have underlined the important role of the public sector in guaranteeing a safe and stable economic environment;

"5. *Also recognizes* that greater consistency is required among the macroeconomic, trade, aid, financial, environmental and gender-equality policies to support the common aim of making globalization work for all;

"6. *Stresses* the need for better mechanisms and institutions to address systemic weaknesses and enhance the coherence, complementarity and coordination of inclusive and transparent global economic policymaking;

"7. *Underlines* the fact that economies exist in a globalizing world where the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations has meant that the space for national economic policy, that is, to say the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space, and that it is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments, and in this regard notes with appreciation the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the concept of policy space, as articulated in the São Paulo Consensus and the World Summit Outcome;

"8. *Reaffirms* the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, stresses, to that end, the importance of making urgent efforts to reform the international financial architecture, noting that enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Bretton Woods institutions remains a continuous concern, and calls in this regard for further and effective progress;

"9. *Stresses* the need for increased funding for agriculture to invigorate the agricultural sector, particularly in developing countries, so as to safeguard food security, farmers' livelihoods and rural development;

"10. *Recognizes* that growth strategies and labour policies need to pursue explicit employment objectives in order to achieve reduction in

poverty, and that those policies must take into account the gender disparities in women's employment;

"11. *Encourages* all development partners to help strengthen and support national health and education policies and plans of developing countries through providing assistance and funding in accordance with their development needs and priorities;

"12. *Notes* that the role of Governments is critical in establishing institutions capable of providing high-quality primary, secondary and tertiary education, including developing a clear vision for the long-term development of a comprehensive, diversified and well-articulated tertiary education system;

"13. *Recognizes* that efficient and equitable health systems are needed to effectively implement the disease prevention, care and control programmes required to meet the specific health goals of reducing child and maternal mortality and reducing the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria;

"14. *Notes* that efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals should further include intensified control of neglected tropical diseases;

"15. *Recognizes* the need for policies and measures to promote sustainable production and consumption patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead;

"16. *Stresses* the need for strengthening technology transfer commitments and providing more favourable terms for technology transfer under multilateral trading agreements and for taking concrete actions to facilitate technology transfer to developing countries in support of the implementation of their sustainable development strategies;

"17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on globalization and interdependence on the theme 'Globalization and development: the role of the United Nations and international financial institutions in the context of the current financial and economic crisis', under the agenda item entitled 'Globalization and interdependence';

"18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled 'Globalization and interdependence', the sub-item entitled 'Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence'."

3. At its 31st meeting, on 11 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" (A/C.2/63/L.66), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Troy Torrington (Guyana), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.29.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, following a statement by the Vice-Chairman (Guyana), the representative of the Netherlands, in her capacity as facilitator, orally corrected the draft resolution (see A/C.2/63/SR.31).

6. Also at its 31st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.66, as orally corrected (see para. 20, draft resolution I).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.66, draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.29 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/63/L.33 and A/C.2/63/L.47

8. At the 27th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Development cooperation with middle-income countries".

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the relevant provisions supporting the development efforts of middle-income countries and their development needs reflected in the outcomes of the United Nations major international conferences and summits, including the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, as well as the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions,

"*Reaffirming* its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007, entitled 'Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system', in which the Assembly recognized that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in the area of poverty eradication and that efforts to address those challenges should be supported in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, including through support to the effective development of comprehensive cooperation policies,

"*Underlining* the need to address the development needs of middle-income countries, including those contained in the outcomes of the international economic development processes,

"*Recognizing* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges and obstacles that are preventing them from achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and the need to strengthen international support of the development efforts of middle-income countries, taking into account their economic and social characteristics and circumstances, as well as their specific needs and priorities,

"*Noting* that the categorization of middle-income countries, particularly averages based on criteria such as per capita income, does not always reflect the actual particularities and development needs of those countries,

"*Taking note* of the outcomes of the international conferences on development cooperation with middle-income countries held in Madrid, El Salvador, and Windhoek, and the regional conference on the theme 'Increasing the competitiveness of African middle-income countries', held in Cairo,

"1. *Underlines* the importance of enhanced international support for middle-income countries to address their development needs;

"2. *Acknowledges* the successes and efforts made by middle-income countries to eradicate poverty and implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as their significant contribution to global development and the promotion of South-South cooperation;

"3. *Recognizes* the solidarity of middle-income countries with other developing countries with a view to supporting their development efforts, including in the context of South-South cooperation;

"4. *Underlines* the importance of enhanced international cooperation for middle-income countries in order to contribute to global and regional economic stability;

"5. *Invites* the United Nations development system to enhance its support to middle-income countries and to strengthen its coordination and exchange of experiences with other international organizations, international financial institutions and regional organizations in this field;

"6. *Acknowledges* the initiative of middle-income countries to hold follow-up conferences and other meetings regarding their development on a yearly basis, and in this regard requests the organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations to support these endeavours;

"7. *Decides* that a comprehensive review should be conducted of existing practices of the international cooperation system, including the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, the international financial institutions and other international organizations, including the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, on their development cooperation with middle-income countries, with a view to achieving more effective development cooperation and fostering international support for the development efforts of these countries;

"8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution at its sixty-fourth session, including paragraph 7 above;

"9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled 'Globalization and interdependence', the sub-item entitled 'Development cooperation with middle-income countries'."

9. At its 29th meeting, on 25 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Development cooperation with middle-income countries" (A/C.2/63/L.47), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Troy Torrington (Guyana), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.33.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

11. Also at its 29th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.47 (see para. 20, draft resolution II).

12. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the Vice-Chairman (Guyana) and the representative of Spain, in her capacity as facilitator (see A/C.2/63/SR.29).

13. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.47, draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.33 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.34

14. At the 28th meeting, on 20 November, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Towards a new international economic order" (A/C.2/63/L.34).

15. At the 31st meeting, on 11 December, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, orally corrected the draft resolution (see A/C.2/63/SR.31).

16. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

17. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.34, as orally corrected, by a recorded vote of 115 to 1 with 49 abstentions (see para. 20, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:[1]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

[1] The delegation of Serbia subsequently indicated that it had intended to abstain.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

18. Before the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of the United States of America, the Russian Federation, Mexico, Canada and Australia; after the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Chile, Peru and Colombia (see A/C.2/63/SR.31).

19. Subsequently, the representative of Cuba made a statement (see A/C.2/63/SR.31).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

20. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000, 56/209 of 21 December 2001, 57/274 of 20 December 2002, 58/225 of 23 December 2003, 59/240 of 22 December 2004, 60/204 of 22 December 2005, 61/207 of 20 December 2006 and 62/199 of 19 December 2007 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome[1] and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in the economic, social and related fields, including resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Reaffirming also the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[2] to ensure that globalization works as a positive force for all,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recognizing also that globalization, driven largely by economic liberalization and technology, implies that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders and that maximizing in an equitable manner the benefits of globalization requires developing responses to globalization through a strengthened global partnership for development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing concern that the number of people living in poverty is higher than previously estimated,[3] despite significant progress, and that the current financial and food insecurity crises and unpredictable energy prices may pose significant challenges for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

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[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

[3] World Bank estimates, as at August 2008, calculated using a revised poverty line.

Recognizing that domestic economies are now interwoven with the global economy and that globalization affects all countries in different ways, and that countries on the one hand have trade and investment opportunities to, inter alia, fight poverty, while on the other hand they face constraints in the degree of flexibility they have in pursuing their national development strategies,

Reaffirming its strong support for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate growth into reduction of poverty and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting that particular attention must be given, in the context of globalization, to the objective of protecting, promoting and enhancing the rights and welfare of women and girls, as stated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[4]

Reaffirming its commitment to governance, equity and transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and its commitment to open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial systems,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the impact of the current financial crisis and global economic slowdown on the ability of developing countries to gain access to the financing necessary for their development objectives, and underlines the fact that developing countries and countries with economies in transition risk suffering very serious setbacks to their development objectives, in particular the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Recognizes* the measures adopted by Governments to address the present financial crisis and, in that regard, calls upon all countries to manage their macroeconomic and financial policies in ways that contribute to global stability and sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

4. *Also recognizes* that greater coherence is required among the macroeconomic, trade, aid, financial, environmental and gender-equality policies to support the common aim of ensuring that globalization works as a positive force for all;

5. *Further recognizes* that new and highly globalized financial instruments continue to change the nature of risks in the world economy, requiring continuing enhancement of market oversight and regulation, and underlines the fact that, to strengthen the resilience of the international financial system, reforms will need to be implemented that will strengthen the regulatory and supervisory frameworks of financial markets;

6. *Underlines* the fact that economies exist in a globalizing world where the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations has meant that

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[5] A/63/333.

the space for national economic policy, that is to say the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space, and that it is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments, and, in this regard, notes with appreciation the outcome of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Accra from 20 to 25 April 2008;[6]

7. *Reaffirms* that good governance is essential for sustainable development, that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation, and that freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing;

8. *Also reaffirms* that good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development, that, in order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance by addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries and that, to this end, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing the market access of developing countries;

9. *Further reaffirms* that each country has primary responsibility for its own development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

10. *Reaffirms* the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, stresses, to that end, the importance of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, noting that enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Bretton Woods institutions remains a continuous concern, and calls in this regard for further and effective progress;

11. *Stresses* the need for increased support for investment in agricultural productivity, particularly in developing countries, in order to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

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[6] See TD/442 and Corr.1.

12. *Encourages* all development partners to help to strengthen and support the national health and education policies and plans of developing countries through providing assistance and funding in accordance with their development needs and priorities;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to assign a high priority to education, including by establishing institutions, in particular for basic education and vocational training, and improving access to and the quality of primary, secondary and tertiary education, including by developing a clear vision for the long-term development of a comprehensive, diversified and well-articulated tertiary education system;

14. *Calls upon* countries to increase public expenditure and encourage greater private and community investment to achieve international goals and targets in the areas of health, nutrition and sanitation consistent with public policy objectives related to equitable access as well as meeting the specific health goals of reducing child and maternal mortality and reducing the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria;

15. *Calls upon* all countries to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;[7]

16. *Stresses* the need for all countries to harness knowledge and technology and stimulate innovation if they are to improve their competitiveness and benefit from trade and investment, and in this regard underlines the importance of concrete actions to facilitate technology transfer under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms to developing countries in support of the implementation of their sustainable development strategies;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on globalization and interdependence on the theme "Globalization and interdependence: the role of the United Nations in poverty reduction and sustainable development" under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence";

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence".

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[7] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

Draft resolution II
Development cooperation with middle-income countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations major international conferences and summits, including the Millennium Declaration[1] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] as well as the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions,

Reaffirming its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007, entitled "Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", in which it recognized that middle-income developing countries still face significant challenges in the area of poverty eradication and that efforts to address those challenges should be supported in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, including through support to the effective development of comprehensive cooperation policies,

Emphasizing that middle-income countries must take primary responsibility for their own development, and that their national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of middle-income countries, while taking into account their specific national conditions,

Noting that national averages based on criteria such as per capita income do not always reflect the actual particularities and development needs of the middle-income countries, and recognizing the significant diversity of middle-income countries,

Taking note of the outcomes of the international conferences on development cooperation with middle-income countries held in Madrid,[3] El Salvador[4] and Windhoek,[5] and the regional conference on the theme "Increasing the competitiveness of African middle-income countries", held in Cairo,[6]

1. *Recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals and, in that regard, underlines the importance of international support, through various forms, that is well aligned with national priorities, to address the development needs of middle-income countries;

2. *Acknowledges* the efforts made and successes achieved by many middle-income countries to eradicate poverty and achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as their significant contribution to global and regional development and economic stability;

3. *Recognizes* the solidarity of middle-income countries with other developing countries with a view to supporting their development efforts, including in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation;

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] A/62/71-E/2007/46.

[4] A/62/483-E/2007/90.

[5] A/C.2/63/3.

[6] Held on 11 and 12 March 2008 to discuss how the World Bank and the African Development Bank can better align their services to the needs of the middle-income countries in Africa.

4. *Invites* the United Nations development system to support as appropriate middle-income countries and to improve its coordination and exchange of experiences with other international organizations, international financial institutions and regional organizations in this field;

5. *Acknowledges* the initiative of middle-income countries to hold follow-up conferences and other meetings regarding their development on a yearly basis and, in this regard, requests the United Nations system to continue supporting these endeavours in collaboration with other relevant international organizations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of all the elements of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", with a focus on existing strategies and actions of the United Nations development system on development cooperation with middle-income countries, and taking into account the work of other relevant international organizations, including international financial institutions.

Draft resolution III
Towards a New International Economic Order

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the economic advancement and social progress of all peoples,

Recalling the principles of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action for the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, respectively, as set out in resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session on 1 May 1974,

Taking into account the fact that the year 2009 marks the thirty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration and its Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1]

Recalling the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the development goals and objectives contained therein, and recognizing the vital role played by those conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives,

Concerned that the current international economic, financial, energy and food crises, as well as the challenges posed by climate change, aggravate the existing international situation and have a negative impact on the development prospects of developing countries, while threatening to further widen the gap between developed and developing countries, including the technological and income gap,

1. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working towards a new international economic order based on the principles of equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States;

2. *Decides* to consider in depth the international economic situation and its impact on development during the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his next report under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence" an overview of the major international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development, and of the role of the United Nations in addressing these issues, in the light of the relevant principles contained in the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action for the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

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Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Awsan **Al-Aud** (Yemen)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 51 (see A/63/416, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 27th and 31st meetings, on 18 November and 11 December 2008. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/63/SR.27 and 31).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/63/L.31 and A/C.2/63/L.67

2. At the 27th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/63/L.31), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005 and 61/208 of 20 December 2006 on international migration and development, 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, 62/156 of

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in five parts, under the symbol A/63/416 and Add.1-4.

18 December 2007 on the protection of migrants and 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development,

"*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Recalling further* its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

"*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and recalling the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

"*Recalling* the International Convention on the Protection of the rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

"*Recalling also* Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,

"*Bearing in mind* the summary of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development by the President of the General Assembly,

"*Acknowledging* the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, and recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community,

"*Acknowledging also* the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

"*Recognizing* that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital and that remittances have increased over time, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Invites* Member States that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families as a matter of priority;

"3. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution made by migrants and migration to development in countries of origin and destination;

"4. *Takes note* of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held in Brussels from 9 to 11 July 2007 and in Manila from 27 to 30 October 2008, as a State-led initiative;

"5. *Invites* the countries of origin and destination, in accordance with domestic legislation, to undertake appropriate measures to facilitate the contribution of migrants and migrant communities to the development of their countries of origin;

"6. *Recognizes* the need for Member States to continue considering the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means of dealing with the challenges and opportunities that international migration presents;

"7. *Reaffirms* that there is a need to address and promote conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances in both source and recipient countries and, as appropriate, to encourage opportunities for development-oriented investment in recipient countries by beneficiaries that are willing and able to undertake such action;

"8. *Reiterates* the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education affects the development efforts of developing countries;

"9. *Acknowledges* the need to analyse the impact of certain forms of temporary migration and return migration;

"10. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to incorporate a gender perspective in all policies and programmes on international migration in order to, inter alia, reinforce the positive contributions that migrant women can make to the economic, social and human development of their countries of origin and their host countries, and to strengthen the protection of women migrants from all forms of violence, discrimination, trafficking, exploitation and abuse by promoting their rights and welfare, while recognizing in this regard the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels;

"11. *Requests* all Member States, in accordance with their relevant international obligations and commitments, to promote cooperation at all levels in addressing the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration so as to foster a secure, regular and orderly process of migration;

"12. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, particularly by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration;

"13. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the development of methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrants and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this regard;

"14. *Decides* to hold a High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, which will be held periodically, starting in 2010, as the appropriate follow-up to the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development held in 2006;

"15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the organizational aspects of the High-level Dialogue for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

"16. *Decides* that the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development will discuss the overall theme of the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts;

"17. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled 'International migration and development';

"18. *Recognizes* that exchanges of information and expertise, consultation and closer cooperation between the Global Forum on Migration and Development and the United Nations could have a positive impact;

"19. *Invites* the regional commissions to organize panel discussions with the participation of high-level personalities from countries of origin, transit and destination to examine the issue of international migration and development, and to provide inputs to the report of the Secretary-General on this agenda item into the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

"20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At its 31st meeting, on 11 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/63/L.67), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Troy Torrington (Guyana), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.31.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.67 (see A/C.2/63/SR.31).

5. Also at its 31st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.67 (see para. 9).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Mexico (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Rio Group) (see A/C.2/63/SR.31).

7. A statement was also made by the Vice-Chairman (see A/C.2/63/SR.31).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.67, draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.31 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, 62/156 of 18 December 2007 on the protection of migrants, 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development and 61/208 of 20 December 2006 on international migration and development,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome[1] and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, and taking note of the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, adopted on 2 December 2008,[2]

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[3] and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[4] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[4] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[5] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[6] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[7]

Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[8] and the invitation to Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

Recalling also the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, and the eight fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization,

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[1] See resolution 60/1.
[2] A/CONF.212/L.1/Rev.1.
[3] Resolution 217 A (III).
[4] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.
[6] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.
[7] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[8] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

Recalling further Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,[9]

Bearing in mind the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development,[10]

Acknowledging that the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and heightened awareness on the issue,

Acknowledging also the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the chalienges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, and recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community,

Acknowledging further the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

Recognizing that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital and that remittances have increased over time, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, particularly by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration;

3. *Emphasizes* that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants is essential for reaping the benefits of international migration;

4. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution made by migrants and migration to development in countries of origin and destination;

5. *Takes note* of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which held its first meeting in Brussels from 9 to 11 July 2007, and its second meeting in Manila from 27 to 30 October 2008, as an informal, voluntary, open, State-led initiative, and also takes note of the generous offer of the Government of Greece to host the third meeting of the Global Forum, to be held in Athens on 4 and 5 November 2009, as well as the offers of other Governments to hold subsequent meetings of the Forum;

6. *Invites* the countries of origin and destination, in accordance with domestic legislation, to undertake appropriate measures to facilitate the contribution of migrants and migrant communities to the development of their countries of origin;

7. *Recognizes* the need for Member States to continue considering the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to

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[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[10] A/61/515.

[11] A/63/265 and Corr.1.

identify appropriate ways and means of maximizing the development benefits and minimizing the negative impacts;

8. *Reaffirms* that there is a need to address and promote conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances in both source and recipient countries and, as appropriate, to encourage opportunities for development-oriented investment in recipient countries by beneficiaries that are willing and able to undertake such action, bearing in mind that remittances cannot be considered a substitute for foreign direct investment, official development assistance, debt relief or other public sources of finance development;

9. *Reiterates* the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education affects the development efforts of developing countries;

10. *Acknowledges* the need to analyse the impact of certain forms of temporary migration, circular migration and return migration on the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as on migrants themselves;

11. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to incorporate a gender perspective in all policies and programmes on international migration in order to, inter alia, reinforce the positive contributions that migrant women can make to the economic, social and human development of their countries of origin and their host countries, and to strengthen the protection of women migrants from all forms of violence, discrimination, trafficking, exploitation and abuse by promoting their rights and welfare, while recognizing in this regard the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels;

12. *Requests* all Member States, in accordance with their relevant international obligations and commitments, to promote cooperation at all levels in addressing the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration so as to foster a secure, regular and orderly process of migration;

13. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, including the Global Migration Group, within their respective mandates, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way, within the context of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and with respect for human rights;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the development of methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this regard;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to support developing countries in their efforts to address migration issues within their respective development strategies in the context of the

implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

16. *Decides* to hold, within existing resources, a high-level dialogue on international migration and development during its sixty-eighth session, in 2013, the focus and modalities of which will be decided upon at its sixty-seventh session;

17. *Also decides* to convene, within existing resources, at its sixty-fifth session, in 2011, a one-day informal thematic debate on international migration and development;

18. *Further decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development";

19. *Invites* the regional commissions to examine regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs, in accordance with respective mandates and within existing resources, to a report of the Secretary-General on this item;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit that report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.